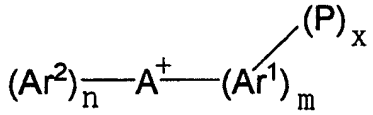
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An onium salt compound having a cation moiety of the following formula (1),



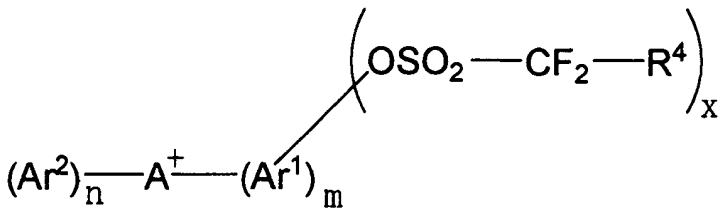
(1)

wherein A represents an iodine atom or a sulfur atom, when A is an iodine atom, m is 1 or 2 and n is 0 or 1, provided that (m+n)=2, and x is an integer of 1-10, and when A is a sulfur atom, m is 1-3 and n is 0-2, provided that (m+n) = 3, and x is an integer of 1-15; Ar^1 represents a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1) or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1), Ar^2 represents a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or Ar^1 and Ar^2 mutually bond together with A^+ in the formula to form a group possessing a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms; and the x-number of P groups bonding to one or more of the m-number of Ar^1 groups individually represent $-O-SO_2R^1$, $-O-S(O)R^2$, or $-SO_2R^3$, wherein R^1 and R^2 individually represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent

alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or a group $-N(R')_2$, wherein R' individually represents a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or two R' groups form, in combination and together with the nitrogen atom in the formula, a group having a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms and wherein R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or a group $-N(R')_2$, wherein R' individually represents a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or two R' groups form, in combination and together with the nitrogen atom in the formula, a group having a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms.

2. (Original) The onium salt compound according to claim 1, wherein A in formula (1) is a sulfur atom.

3. (Previously Presented) An onium salt compound having a cationic moiety of the following formula (2),

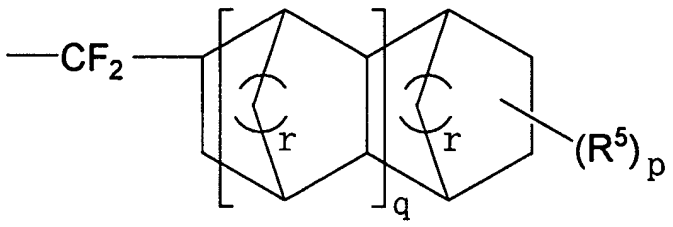


(2)

wherein A represents an iodine atom or a sulfur atom, when A is an iodine atom, m is 1 or 2 and n is 0 or 1, provided that (m+n)=2, and x is an integer of 1-10, and when A is a sulfur atom, m is 1-3 and n is 0-2, provided that (m+n) = 3, and x is an integer of 1-15; Ar^1 represents a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1) or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1), Ar^2 represents a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or Ar^1 and Ar^2 mutually bond together with A^+ in the formula to form a group possessing a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms and R^4 represents a hydrogen atom, fluorine atom, nitro group, cyano group, or a monovalent organic group having 1-20 carbon atoms.

4. (Original) The onium salt compound according to claim 3, wherein A in formula (2) is a sulfur atom.

5. (Original) The onium salt compound according to claim 3, wherein R^4 in the formula (2) is a group of the following formula (3),

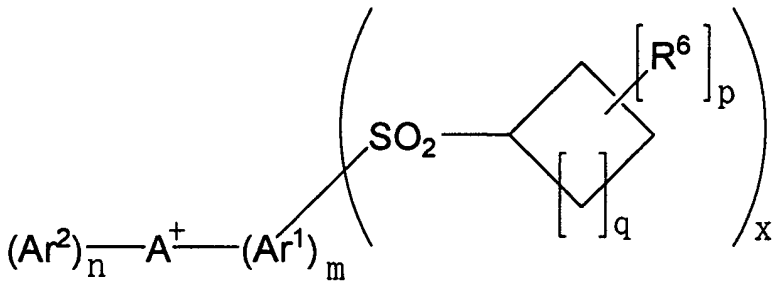


(3)

wherein R^5 represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or a group $-N(R^{2'})_2$, wherein $R^{2'}$ individually represents a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted, monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or two $R^{2'}$ groups form, in combination and together with the nitrogen atom in the formula, a group having a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms, p is an integer of 0-16, q is an integer of 0-8, and r is an integer of 1-3.

6. (Original) An onium salt compound according to claim 5, wherein both p and q are 0 and both r's are 1.

7. (Previously Presented) An onium salt compound having a cationic moiety represented by the following formula (4)

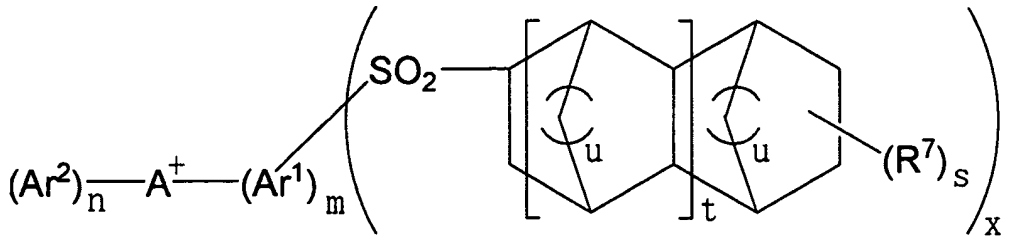


(4)

wherein A represents an iodine atom or a sulfur atom, when A is an iodine atom, m is 1 or 2 and n is 0 or 1, provided that (m+n)=2, and x is an integer of 1-10, and when A is a sulfur atom, m is 1-3 and n is 0-2, provided that (m+n) = 3, and x is an integer of 1-15; Ar^1 represents a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1) or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1), Ar^2 represents a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or Ar^1 and Ar^2 mutually bond together with A^+ in the formula to form a group possessing a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms; p is an integer of 0-16; q is an integer of 0-8; and R^6 represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or a group $-N(R^{3'})_2$,

wherein $R^{3'}$ individually represents a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted, monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or two $R^{3'}$ groups form, in combination and together with the nitrogen atom in the formula, a group having a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms.

8. (Previously Presented) An onium salt compound having a cationic moiety represented by the following formula (5) ,

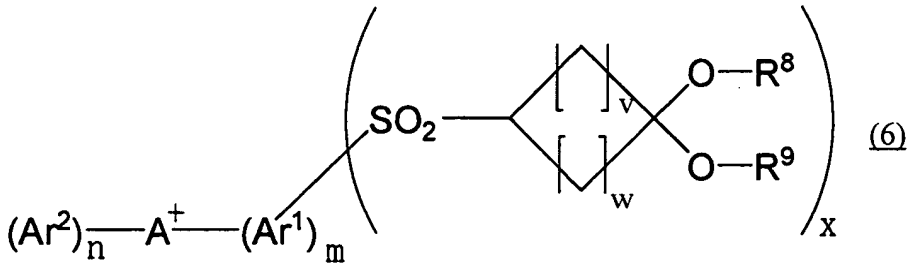


(5)

wherein A represents an iodine atom or a sulfur atom, when A is an iodine atom, m is 1 or 2 and n is 0 or 1, provided that (m+n)=2, and x is an integer of 1-10, and when A is a sulfur atom, m is 1-3 and n is 0-2, provided that (m+n) = 3, and x is an integer of 1-15; Ar^1 represents a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1) or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1), Ar^2 represents a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or Ar^1 and Ar^2 mutually bond together with A^+ in the formula to form a group possessing a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms, or Ar^1 and Ar^2 mutually bond together with A^+ in the

formula to form a group possessing a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms; R^7 represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or a group -N $(R^{4'})_2$, wherein $R^{4'}$ individually represents a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted, monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or two $R^{4'}$ groups form, in combination and together with the nitrogen atom in the formula, a group having a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms, s is an integer of 0-6, t is an integer of 0-5, and u is an integer of 1-3.

9. (Previously Presented) An onium salt compound having a cationic moiety represented by the following formula (6),



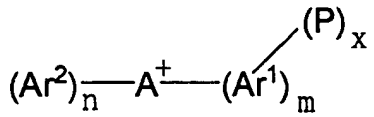
(6)

wherein A represents an iodine atom or a sulfur atom, when A is an iodine atom, m is 1 or 2 and n is 0 or 1, provided that (m+n)=2, and x is an integer of 1-10, and when A is a sulfur atom, m is 1-3 and n is 0-2, provided that (m+n) = 3, and x is an integer of 1-15; Ar^1 represents a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1) or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1), Ar^2 represents a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or Ar^1 and Ar^2 mutually bond together with A^+ in the formula to form a group possessing a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms, or Ar^1 and Ar^2 mutually bond together with A^+ in the formula to form a group possessing a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms; R^8 and R^9 individually represent a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic group having 3-20 carbon atoms, or R^8 and R^9 may form, in combination and together with one carbon atom and two oxygen atoms in the formula, a group having a cyclic structure with 4-10 atoms; and v and w are respectively the integers of 0-5, satisfying the formula $(v+w)\geq 1$.

10.-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A positive tone radiation-sensitive resin composition comprising:

(A) at least one onium salt compound having a cation moiety of the following formula (1),



(1)

wherein A represents an iodine atom or a sulfur atom, when A is an iodine atom, m is 1 or 2 and n is 0 or 1, provided that (m+n)=2, and x is an integer of 1-10, and when A is a sulfur atom, m is 1-3 and n is 0-2, provided that (m+n) = 3, and x is an integer of 1-15; Ar^1 represents a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1) or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1), Ar^2 represents a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or Ar^1 and Ar^2 mutually bond together with A^+ in the formula to form a group possessing a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms; and the x-number of P groups bonding to one or more of the m-number of Ar^1 groups individually represent $-O-SO_2R^1$, $-O-S(O)R^2$, or $-SO_2R^3$, wherein R^1, R^2, and R^3 individually represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or a group $-N(R')_2$, wherein R' individually represents a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon

atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or two R' groups form, in combination and together with the nitrogen atom in the formula, a group having a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms; and

(B) a resin having an acid-dissociable group and which is insoluble or scarcely soluble in alkali, but which becomes alkali soluble when the acid-dissociable group dissociates.

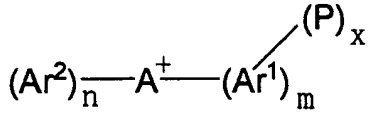
15. (Original) The positive tone radiation-sensitive resin composition according to claim 14, wherein the onium salt compound is selected from the onium salt compounds having $-SO_2R^3$ for the group P in the formula (1).

16. (Previously Presented) A positive tone radiation-sensitive resin composition comprising (A) at least one onium salt compound according to Claim 3 as a photoacid generator; and (B) a resin having an acid-dissociable group and which is insoluble or scarcely soluble in alkali, but becomes alkali soluble when the acid-dissociable group dissociates.

17. (Previously Presented) A positive tone radiation-sensitive resin composition comprising: (A) at least one onium salt compound according to Claim 5 as a photoacid generator; and (B) a resin having an acid-dissociable group and which is insoluble or scarcely soluble in alkali, but becomes alkali soluble when the acid-dissociable group dissociates.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) An onium salt compound having a cation moiety of the following formula (1),



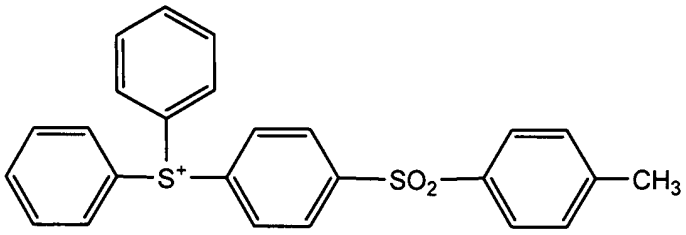
(1)

wherein A represents an iodine atom or a sulfur atom, when A is an iodine atom, m is 1 or 2 and n is 0 or 1, provided that (m+n)=2, and x is an integer of 1-10, and when A is a sulfur atom, m is 2 or 3 and n is 0 or 1, provided that (m+n) = 3, and x is an integer of 1-15; Ar^1 represents a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1) or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms with a valence of 1 to (x+1), Ar^2 represents a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or Ar^1 and Ar^2 mutually bond together with A^+ in the formula to form a group possessing a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms; and the x-number of P groups bonding to the m-number of Ar^1 groups individually represent $-O-SO_2R^1$, $-O-S(O)R^2$, or $-SO_2R^3$, wherein R^1, R^2, and R^3 individually represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or a group $-N(R')_2$, wherein R' individually represents a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3-20 carbon atoms, an

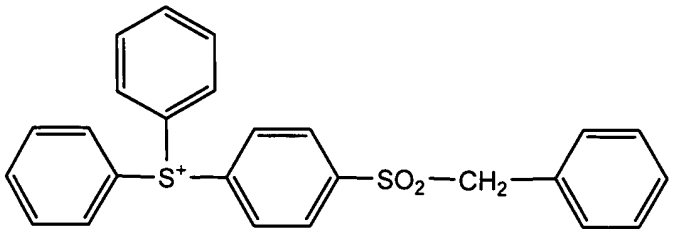
alkenyl group having 2-20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent heterocyclic group having 3-20 atoms, or two R' groups form, in combination and together with the nitrogen atom in the formula, a group having a cyclic structure with 3-8 atoms.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ A positive tone radiation-sensitive resin composition comprising:

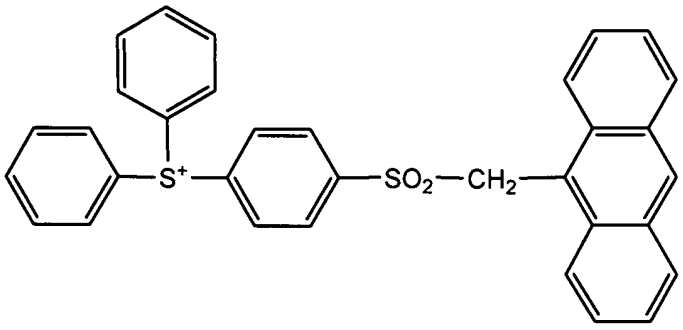
(A) at least one onium salt compound having a cation moiety selected from the group consisting of:



;



; and



as a photoacid generator and;

(B) a resin having an acid-dissociable group and which is insoluble or scarcely soluble in alkali, but becomes alkali soluble when the acid-dissociable group dissociates.

21. (Canceled).